

# MYSTIFY

**'mystify**, v.t. Make at a loss, not clear about something. ('mistifai).  
**myth**, n. Story handed down from very early times about cause of some natural event, the gods etc.; false belief; a fiction. **'ical**, a. Sp., without existence in fact. **-ology**, n. Body of, learning to do with, myths. (miθ).

# N

**nab**, [Hum.] v.t. Take, get quickly, (sp. wrongdoer). (nab).  
**'nabob**, n. [Hist.] Mohammedan ruler of division of India; man with much money, sp. made in India. ('neibob).  
**'nadir**, n. Point of sky opp. **ZENITH**; lowest, feeblest, point. ('neidia).  
**nag**, [Com.] n. Horse. (nag).  
**nag**, v.i. & t. Keep pointing out errors, making sharp-tongued protests (to).  
**'naiad**, [Gk. Fict.] n. Beautiful female water-being. ('naiad).  
**nail**, i. n. Metal pin for hammering into bits of wood etc. as way of joining, making fixed; horn-like substance covering end of finger or toe. *Hit the n. on the head*, say something very much to the point; *pay etc. on the n.*, do so straight away. 2. v.t. Get fixed with n(n). *N. person down*, make him give clear statement of his purpose etc. (neil).  
**'nainsook**, n. Thin cotton cloth. ('neinsuk).  
**na'ive**, a. Simple, natural, without experience. **-te** (na:'ivtei), n. Being naïve. (na:'iv).  
**'naked**, a. Without clothing; open to view, uncovered. *See with the n. eye*, see without help of an instrument. ('neikid).  
**'namby-pamby**, a. (Of person, talk) oversweet, soft, baby-like. ('nambi'pambi).  
**name**, i. n. Word(s) by which any person, animal, place, thing, sort etc. is talked of or to; opinion which is current about person etc. *In the n. of*, as representative of, with the authority of; *person's good n.*, the respect others have for him. 2. v.t. Give a n. to; say, give, the n. of; make offer of (price, conditions etc.); give (person) the position of. *N. person after*, give person same name as (another). **'less**, a. Sp., whose name is not given; so bad that one has no name for it; not noted. **-ly**, adv. That is to say. **'sake**, n. Person named after another. (neim).  
**nan'keen**, n. Yellow-brown cotton cloth. (nap'kin).  
**'nanny**, n. Baby's word for NURSE.  
**'n-goat**, n. Female goat. ('nani).  
**nap**, v.i., n. (Take) short sleep. *Catch person napping*, take by surprise, when unready or not taking care. (nap).  
**nap**, n. Soft, short, brushed-up hairs or

# NATURE

threads forming face of certain sorts of cloth.  
**nap**, n. Sort of card-play.  
**nape**, n. Back of neck. (neip).  
**'napery**, [Old] n. Table-linen. ('neipəri).  
**'naphtha**, n. Readily-burning oil got from coal. **'lene**, n. White, strong-smelling, CRYSTAL substance got from coal, used for medical and other purposes. ('nafθa).  
**'napkin**, n. Small cloth used at meal for keeping lips, hands etc. clean; cloth folded round legs of baby. ('napkin).  
**nar'cissism**, n. Over-great love of, interest in, oneself. (na:'sisizm).  
**nar'cissus** (-i), n. Sorts of bulb-plants with white or yellow flowers. (na:'sisas (na:'sisai)).  
**nar'cotic**, n., a. (Substance) causing sleep or unconscious condition. (na:'kotik).  
**nar'rate**, v.t. Give an account of, give (a story). **'narrative**, a., n. (Of, in the form of) a story. (na'reit).  
**'narrow**, i. a. Measuring little from side to side, opp. wide; of small range; n.-minded; with very little over, almost not (*n. majority*, *n. escape*). 2. n. N. part of sea, river etc. (gen. *nn.*). 3. v.t. & i. Make or become narrower, less. **-ly**, adv. Only by a little; with great care, attention. **n.-minded**, a. Not ready to see other points of view, with fixed ideas. ('narou).  
**'nasal**, a. Of the nose; (of sound) produced through the nose. ('neizl).  
**'nascent**, a. In process of development, coming into being. ('nasnt).  
**nas'turtium**, n. Garden-plant with bright red or yellow flowers. (nəs'tə:ʃəm).  
**'nasty**, a. Dirty, disgusting, unpleasant; bad-humoured; troubling, serious. ('na:sti).  
**'natal**, a. Of birth. ('neitl).  
**na'tation**, n. Swimming. (na'tei'n).  
**'nation**, n. Group having common language, history, government. **-al** ('naʃnl), i. a. Of, common to, a nation. *N. anthem*, special song of a nation. 2. n. Person of certain nation. **'alism**, n. Strong feeling for one's nation; desire for national self-government. **-ality** (naʃ'naliti), n. Existence as a nation; being one of a nation (*of F. etc. n.*). **-alize**, v.t. Sp., make (land, railways etc.) into national property; make (persons) nationals. ('neifn).  
**'native**, n., a. (Person, animal, plant) having had birth in, natural to, a place; (one) of other than white nation-group, sp., at low level of development; (of qualities) which one has from birth. *One's n. land*, land of one's birth. **na'tivity** (na'tiviti), n. Birth. *The N.*, the birth of Christ. ('neitiv).  
**'natty**, a. Pleasing to the eye, small, well-designed; well-dressed. ('nati).  
**'nature**, n. The system of natural things

# NAUGHT

with its laws, everything on earth other than the works of man; [Fict.] force controlling this; the country, its plants and animals; simple, outdoor, animal-like existence; necessary qualities of a thing; a person's general tendencies of mind, feeling; sort (*of this n.*). *In the n. of a*, like, almost, a. **'natural** ('natʃrəl), i. a. Of, forming a part of, in agreement with, nature or one's nature; not changed or produced by art; not surprising, normal; (of behaviour) simple, unself-conscious; [Mus.] of, to do with, normal scale of C, not SHARP or FLAT (*A, B etc. n.*). *N. daughter* (son), offspring of persons not married to one another; *n. history*, branch of learning having to do with facts of nature, sp. animals; *n. selection*, theory that those sorts of plants and animals whose adjustment to conditions is poor, in time go out of existence. 2. n. [Mus.] N. note; sign (♮) put before a note making it a n.; person feeble-minded from birth. **'naturalism**, n. (In art) the picturing of things as they are, in a way true to nature. **'naturalist**, n. One interested in, expert at, natural history. **natura'listic**, a. Marked by naturalism. **'naturalize**, v.t. Sp., make (person) by law one of a nation which is not his by birth; take (word etc.) from one language into another. ('neitʃə).  
**naught**, n. Nothing; 0. (nɔ:t).  
**'naughty**, a. (Of the young) bad in behaviour, giving trouble; taking pleasure in being a little shocking. ('nɔ:ti).  
**'nausea**, n. Tendency to send up food from stomach; feeling of disgust. **-te** ('nɔ:sieit), v.t. Give nausea to. **'nauseous**, a. Disgusting. ('nɔ:sia).  
**nautch**, n. Dancing done by E.-Indian dancing girls. (nɔ:tʃ).  
**'nautical**, a. Of ships, seamen. ('nɔ:tikl).  
**'nautilus**, n. Small sea-animal with curving SHELL. ('nɔ:tiləs).  
**'naval**, a. Of ships or NAVY. ('neivl).  
**nave**, n. Middle part of church where seats are. (neiv).  
**'navel**, n. Small hollow in front of body where stomach is. ('neivl).  
**'navigate**, v.t. & i. Be sailing, controlling direction of (ship, airplane); take ship on, through (sea, river etc.). **'navigable**, a. (Of sea, river) able to be navigated; (of ship) in good condition. **navi'gation**, n. Sp., science of learning position, keeping direction, at sea. ('naviget).  
**'navvy**, n. Workman who does rough, hard work in making of roads etc. ('navi).  
**'navy**, n. Ships, men, of nation's sea-force. *N. blue*, dark blue. ('neivi).  
**na'wab**, n. Indian of high birth or in high ruling position. (na'wa:b).

# NECROPOLIS

**nay**, [Old] int. No; and even (more). (nei).  
**'Nazi**, n., a. (One) of German political group which came into power in 1933. ('na:tsi).  
**'neap(-tide)**, n. Tide in which high water is at lowest level of the year. ('ni:p'taid).  
**near**, i. adv. Opp. far in space or time; almost. 2. prep. Opp. far from in space, time, condition. 3. a. Opp. far; (of relation) n. in family tree; (of side of horse, carriage) left; not readily giving money etc. *N. friend*, one dear and frequently seen; *n. thing*, something almost ending in trouble, damage, destruction. 4. v.i. & t. Come n. (to). **-by**, a. Near. **-ly**, adv. Almost; from near to, in detail. *Not n.*, not at all, far from. **n.-sighted**, a. Not able to see far-off things clearly. (nia).  
**neat** (neat), [Old] n. Any animal of cow family. (ni:t).  
**neat**, a. In good order, with nothing out of its place; pleasingly simple for its purpose; well said in small number of words; (of alcohol drink, etc.) unmixed with water.  
**'nebula** (nebulae), n. Group of far-away stars or mass of gas seen as bright cloud in sky. **-r**, a. Of nebulae. **'nebulous**, a. Cloud-like, not clear in outline, purpose. ('nebju:lə).  
**'necessary**, i. a. Without which some act or condition is not possible; which has to be done; which it is very important to do; which has to be, which is not able to be other than it is. 2. n. Thing necessary for existence (gen. *nn.*) **ne'cessitate** (ni'sesiteit), v.t. Make necessary. **ne'cessitous**, a. Poor, in need. **ne'cessity**, n. Conditions, force, making something necessary; fact of being necessary; condition of need; necessary thing. ('nesisəri).  
**neck**, n. Part joining head to body; that part of dress etc. round the neck; narrow part of bottle near mouth; narrow part between wider parts. *Get it in the n.*, [Hum.] be given a very bad time, undergo hard punishment; *low n.*, top of dress cut out so that neck, chest etc. are uncovered; *n. and crop*, with force, roughly, completely; *n. and n.*, keeping level in competition; *n. or nothing*, chancing everything in the hope of doing well. **-band**, n. Part of dress etc. going round neck. **-lace** ('neklis), n. Ornament for putting round neck. **-let**, n. Necklace; cover for neck made of animal's coat. **-tie**, n. Narrow band of silk etc. for knotting round shirt collar. (nek).  
**'necromancy**, n. Art of learning about the future etc. from shades of the dead. **'necromancer**, n. ('nekroumans).  
**ne'cropolis**, n. CEMETERY, sp. of early times. (ne'krɒpəlɪs).

# NECROSIS

**ne'crosis**, n. Death, dead condition of bone or other part of body. (ne'krousis).  
**'nectar**, n. Drink of Gk. gods; sweet liquid produced by flowers. ('nekta).  
**'nectarine**, n. Sort of smooth-skinned PEACH. ('nektarin).  
**née**, [F.] a. (Of woman) having had (certain name) by birth, before being married. (nei).  
**need**, i. n. Condition in which some act, thing, is necessary; being without something necessary; being very poor; thing needed. 2. v.t. & i. Have n. for, be without; have n. to (do). *He n. not do, have done etc.*, it is, was, not necessary for him to do etc. **'ful**, a. Necessary. **'less**, a. Unnecessary. **-s**, adv. Only *must n.* or *n. must*, have to, be forced to (do). **'-y**, a. Poor. (ni:d).  
**'needle**, n. Pointed steel instrument with hole for thread, used in stitching; other sorts of n.-like instrument, sp. for working with thread, wool; pointer on face of recording-apparatus etc.; sharply pointed mountain, mass of stone etc.; n.-like leaf of some evergreens. **'woman**, n. One doing needlework. **'work**, n. Work done, material produced, by stitching, sp., ornamented n. ('ni:dl).  
**ne'er**, [Let.] adv. Never. **'n-do-well** ('neaduvel). A good-for-nothing. (neə).  
**ne'farious**, a. Very bad, wrong. (ni'feəriəs).  
**ne'gation**, n. (Act of making) negative statement; the opposite or not being present (of something). **ne'gate**, v.t. Negative. **'negative** ('negativ), i. a. (Of words, answer etc.) making statement or suggestion that thing is not so, saying "no"; without clearly marked qualities; (of quality) formed by the opposite not being present (*n. virtue*); equal to or less than nothing; [Sc.] see POLE. *N. electricity*, that produced by rubbing RESIN. 2. n. N. statement or word; camera-picture in which light and shade are in opposite to natural positions, from which prints are made. 3. v.t. Say "no" to (idea, statement); make clear that (argument etc.) is wrong; take away effect of. (ni'geiʃn).  
**ne'glect**, i. v.t. Take no or not enough care of; give no attention to, not do; take no steps (to). 2. n. Neglecting or being neglected. **'ful**, a. Neglecting. **'negligent** ('neglidʒənt), a. Not taking enough care. **'negligible**, a. Not important or great enough to be taken into account. (ni'glekt).  
**'négligé**, [F.] n. (Condition of being in) loose bedroom dress. ('negli:ʒei).  
**ne'gotiate**, v.i. & t. Have discussion (with) for purpose of coming to agreement; make come about, get fixed, by negotiating; get or give money for (cheques etc.); get round (some trouble, something which

# NEST

is in the way). **ne'gotiable**, a. Sp., (of cheque etc. or property) which may be exchanged for money. (ni'gouʃieit).  
**'negro**, i. n. Black-skinned African man. 2. a. Of nn. as group. **'negress**, n. **'-id** ('ni:groid), a. Negro-like. ('ni:grou).  
**'negus**, n. Warm wine and water. ('ni:ʒəs).  
**neigh**, n., v.i. Cry of horse. (nei).  
**'neighbour**, n. Person living in house, street etc. near another; person, thing, near or nearest another. **'hood**, n. (Persons living in) some one part of town or country; condition of being near. **'ing**, a. Nearby. **'-ly**, a. Acting like a kind neighbour. ('neiba).  
**'neither**, i. adv. And not, equally not (*I will not go and n. will he*). *N. ... nor ...*, not ... or ... 2. a., pron. Not the one or the other (of two). ('naɪðə).  
**'Nemesis**, n. (Gk. Higher Being causing) punishment, downfall, which comes to person as effect of his acts. ('nemisis).  
**'neo-**, New, later (*n.-paganism*). **'lithic** ('ni:ou'liθik), a. Of the later of the 2 stages in history when stone instruments were used. **ne'ologism** ('ni:'ol-ədʒizim), n. Making of new words; new word. **'phyte** ('ni:oufaɪt), n. One who has newly taken up some belief; NOVICE. ('ni:ou-).  
**'neon**, n. Gas present in very small amount in air, used in electric signs. ('ni:ɒn).  
**'nephew**, n. Person's brother's or sister's son. ('nevju:).  
**'nepotism**, n. The giving of positions etc., by person in power, to his relations. ('nepatizim).  
**nerve**, i. n. Thread-like connection taking impulses of feeling, motion, between brain and parts of body; quality of facing danger well, not feeling fear; supporting structure of leaf; [Old] cord joining muscle to bone. *Nn.*, sp., condition of feeling trouble, pain, shock etc. to more than normal degree; *get on one's nn.*, be troubling to one in way which by degrees overcomes self-control. 2. v.t. Make strong, take away fear from. **'less**, a. Sp., feeble, without force. **'nervous**, a. Of nerves; feeling fear, getting worked up, over-readily; (of language) pointed, full of force. **'nervy**, a. In nervous condition. (nə:v).  
**'nescient**, a. Without knowledge. ('nesi-ənt).  
**nest**, i. n. Place made by bird for its eggs; place where animal gives birth to, keeps, its young; place of warm comfort; group of like things together or one inside another. 2. v.i. Make or have n. **'n-egg**, n. False egg put in fowl's nest to get it



NEGRO

# NET

to have eggs; money put on one side for use in time of need. **'le** ('nesl), v.i. Put oneself, be, in warm nest-like place (*in, among etc.*); be pushing oneself lovingly (*against etc.*). **'ling** ('nestlɪŋ), n. Young bird before it is able to go from nest. (nest).  
**net**, i. n. Open-work material formed of knotted thread, cord, hair etc.; bit of n. used for some special purpose, sp., for getting animals. 2. v.t. & i. Take (as) in, get covered with or prisoned in n.; make (thread etc.) into n.; make (bag etc.) by netting. **'ting**, n. Sp., net material. **'work**, n. Net material; complex structure or design of lines etc. going across one another. (net).  
**net(t)**, i. a. (Of amount) from which there are no further amounts to be taken off. *N. price*, one from which nothing more will be taken; *n. profit*, profit after payments for work etc. have been made. 2. v.t. Get or be producing as n. profit.  
**'nether**, [Old] a. Lower. **'-most**, a. Lowest. ('neðə).  
**'nettle**, i. n. Sorts of common field plant, sp. one making skin red and causing pain when touched. 2. v.t. Make a little angry. **'n-rash**, n. Skin-trouble in which small red marks are formed on skin. ('netl).  
**'neur(o)-**, To do with nerves (*'neuro-pa'thology*). **neu'ralgia** (nju'rældʒə), n. Sharp pain in nerves, sp. of face and head. **neuras'thenia** (nju-ras'θi:njə), n. Poor condition of nerve system. **neu'ritis** (nju'raitis), n. Nerve INFLAMMATION. **neu'rology**, n. Branch of medical science to do with nerves. **neu'rosis** (neu'roses) (nju'rəʊsɪs), n. Unbalanced condition of mind caused by changes in brain structure. **neu'rotic** (nju'rəʊtɪk), n., a. (Person) with over-delicate nerve reactions, tendency to neurosis. ('njuər(ou)-).  
**'neuter**, a. (Of plant) without male or female parts; [Lang.] of GENDER which is not sign of male or female. ('nju:ta).  
**'neutral**, i. a. Not supporting one side or the other in a war; without opinion on one side or the other in argument etc.; not clearly one thing or another, without marked qualities; [Sc.] not acid or ALKALI. 2. n. N. person or country. **'ize**, v.t. Sp., take away effect of. ('nju:trəl).  
**'never**, adv. At no time, not ever. *N. mind!* Don't be troubled; *Well, I n.!* [Com.] What a surprise! **'-more**, adv. Never again. **'the-less**, conj. Though that is so. ('nevə).  
**new**, i. a. First made, designed, seen, experienced, used, at the time in question, not long made, used, in existence; different, changed, in place of another. 2. adv. Not long before, newly. **'comer**

# NIGHT

(nju:kamə), n. One who has newly come to place or is there for first time. **'fang-led** ('nju:'fæŋld), a. Unpleasantly new and strange. (nju:).  
**news**, n. Account of some new thing, event, new facts. **'n-agent**, n. Trader in newspapers. **'n-boy**, n. Boy trading in newspapers on street. **'paper** ('nju:speɪpə), n. Pages of paper on which news is printed, gen. coming out every day. (nju:z).  
**newt**, n. Water LIZARD. (nju:t).  
**next**, i. a. Nearest; coming after in time with no other thing between. *N. door*, in or to the n. house. 2. adv. In the n. place, time, or degree. 3. prep. In(to) the place, degree nearest to. 4. n. N. person, thing. *N. of kin*, nearest relation. (nekst).  
**'nexus**, n. Connection. ('neksəs).  
**nib**, n. Pointed metal part of pen. *Nn.*, crushed COCOA seeds. (nɪb).  
**'nibble**, v.t. & i., n. Take small bites of. ('nɪbl).  
**nice**, a. Pleasing, good; delicate, needing care in judging etc.; with delicate tastes, not readily pleased. **'-ty** ('naɪsɪti), n. Quality of doing, being done, with delicate care, without error; delicate shade (of sense etc.); unimportant detail. *To a n.*, without any error. (naɪs).  
**niche**, n. Shelf-like place in wall for form cut in stone or other ornament. (niʃ).  
**'nick**, v.t., n. (Make) small V-like cut (in), sp. as guiding mark. *In the n. of time*, at the latest possible minute. (nik).  
**'nickel**, n. Silver-white metal freq. mixed with, or used for coating, other metals. ('nikl).  
**'nickname**, i. n. Name given in addition to or in place of true name. 2. v.t. Give n. to. ('nikneɪm).  
**'nicotine**, n. Poison in liquid form in, got from, tobacco. **'nicotinism**, n. Tobacco poisoning. ('nikatɪn).  
**niece**, n. Person's brother's or sister's daughter. (ni:s).  
**'niggard**, n. One not giving readily. **'-ly**, a. Giving or given in small amounts, unready. ('nɪɡəd).  
**'nigger**, [Com.] n. NEGRO or one of any dark-skinned group. ('nɪɡə).  
**'niggle**, v.i. Give much attention to unimportant details. **'niggling**, a. ('nɪɡl).  
**nigh**, [Old] a. Near. (nai).  
**night**, n. Dark hours between day and day, from sundown to sun-up; the dark. *Make a n. of it*, be pleasure-making through all or most of the n. **'-cap**, n. Sp., drink taken at bed-time. **'n-dress**, **'n-gown**, nn. Woman's dress for sleeping in. **'-fall**, n. End of daylight. **'-ingale**, n. Small bird noted for beautiful night song. **'-light**, n. Short, thick, slow-burning wax-light. **'-ly**, a. Done, taking place, at night or

# NIHILIST

every night. **'-mare**, n. Sleep-experience causing fear. **'-shade**, n. Sorts of field plant, some of which have poison berries. **'-shirt**, n. Boy's or man's for sleeping in. **'-y**, n. Night-dress. (nait). **'nihilist**, n. One of group in Russia before 1917 desiring complete destruction of government and society then in existence. ('nailist). **nil**, n. Nothing. (nil). **'nimble**, a. Quick, expert in motion; (of mind) quick, sharp. ('nimbl). **'nimbus**, n. Bright cloud; HALO; rain-cloud. ('nimbəs). **'nincompoop**, n. Foolish, feeble person. ('ninkəmpu:p). **nine**, 9. *Dressed up to the nm.*, dressed in one's best clothing. **'-pin**, n. Any of 9 bottle-like bits of wood used in ninepins. **'-pins**, n. Sport in which attempt is made at overturning ninepins with rolling ball. **'-teen**, 19. **'-ty**, 90. **ninth** (nainθ), a. (nain). **'ninny**, n. NINCOMPOOP. ('nini). **nip**, 1. n. Small, quick, sharp bite, grip; DRAM of alcohol. *A n. in the air*, feeling of cold. 2. v.t. & i. Give small, sharp bite etc. to; put sudden stop to growth, development, of (sp., *n. in the bud*); [Hum.] go quickly. **'-per**, n. Gripping-part of certain animals; [Hum.] small boy. *Nn.*, gripping-instrument. **'-py**, a. (Of weather) cold; [Hum.] quick in motions. (nip). **'nipple**, n. Pointed part of BREAST; n-like part. ('nɪpl). **nir'vana**, n. (In Buddhist religion) highest condition, in which self becomes part of the power ruling all existence. (niə'vɑ:nə). **nit**, n. Egg of LOUSE or other such insect living on other animal. (nit). **'nitre**, n. Salt formed from POTASH, used in making gunpowder. **'nitrate**, n. Any substance formed by chemical reaction of nitric acid with ALKALI. **'nitric**, a. *N. acid*, clear liquid acid without colour, readily biting into metal and other substances. **'nitrogen** ('naitrədʒən), n. Gas without colour, taste, or smell, forming about  $\frac{1}{5}$ ths of air. **'nitro-glycerine**, n. Sort of very strong EXPLOSIVE. ('naitə). **no**, 1. a. Not any, not a, quite other than a. *In n. time*, very quickly; *n. doubt*, probably, certainly; *n. fear*, [Com.] certainly not; *n. wonder (that)*, it is not surprising (that); *there is n. -ing*, it is not possible to —. 2. adv. By no amount, not at all; (after *or*) not. 3. int. Opp. yes. 4. n. The answer "No" or statement having that sense. **'-body**, n. No person; unimportant person. **'-thing** ('nəθɪŋ), 1. n. No thing; no amount; unimportant thing. *There is n. for it but*

# NON-

*to*, the only possible thing is to. 2. adv. Not at all, in no way. **'-where**, adv. In, at, to, no place. (nou). **'nobble**, [Com.] v.t. Do something to (horse) for purpose of damaging its chance in competition; become owner of by trick. ('nɒbl). **'noble**, 1. a. Of high birth, position; with high, great, qualities; kind, not small-minded; important-looking, causing respect. 2. n. Nobleman. **no'bility**, n. Sp., noblemen and their families as a group. **'-man**, n. PEER or one of like position in countries other than England. ('noubi). **noct'urnal**, a. Of, in, done or acting at, night. **'nocturne** ('nɒktəm), n. Picture of place at night; sweet, soft bit of music. (nɒk'tə:nl). **nod**, v.t. & i., n. Make down and up motion with (head) as sign of agreement or when meeting friend; let head go forward in condition of half-sleep. *Land of N.*, [Hum.] sleep; *nodding acquaintance with*, very small knowledge of. (nod). **'noddle**, [Hum.] n. Head. ('nɒdl). **node**, n. Hard round mass formed on root or branch; [Sc.] point where leaf is joined to stem; [Med.] hard growth formed sp. on diseased bone; [Math.] point at which curve goes across itself. **'nodule** ('nɒdju:l), n. Small round mass of anything; small node. (noud). **No'el**, n. Christmas. (nou'el). **noise**, 1. n. Loud, sp. unpleasing, sound; any sound. *Big n.*, [Hum.] important person. 2. v.t. Only *n. facts etc. abroad*, make public, widely talked about. **'-less**, a. Without sound. (noiz). **'noisome**, a. (Sp. of smell) disgusting. ('noisəm). **'nomad**, n., a. (One of a group) having no fixed living-place, moving from place to place. **no'madic**, a. ('noumad). **'nom de plume**, [F.] n. Name used by writer in place of his true name. ('nɒm də 'plu:m). **no'menclature**, n. System of names or naming. (nou'menkltəʃə). **'nominal**, a. Having existence in name or word only. *A n. amount, price etc.*, a very small one. ('nɒmɪnl). **'nominate**, v.t. Make selection of for, put name of (person) forward for selection to, position. **nomi'nation**, n. Sp., right of nominating. **'nominative** ('nɒminətɪv), [Lang.] a., n. (Of) form of noun or a. used for doer of an act. **nomi'nee**, n. ('nɒmineɪt). **non-**, Not being or doing something. (*n. human*, a., *n. intervention*). **'n-commissioned officer**, n. OFFICER in army etc. without COMMISSION. **n-com-mittal**, a. Not giving decision one way or the other. **n-conductor**, n. Sub-

# NONAGE

stance not transporting heat, electric current etc. **-conformist**, n., a. Person, sp. PROTESTANT, not supporting beliefs of church of nation. **-conformity**, n. (Beliefs of) nonconformists; not CONFORMING. **'-entity**, n. Thing without existence; unimportant person. (non-). **'nonage**, n. Being a MINOR. ('nɒnɪdʒ). **nonage'narian**, n., a. (One who is) 90 to 99 years old. (nɒnədʒi'neəriən). **nonce**, n. Only for the *n.*, for the present only. (nɒns). **'nonchalant**, a. With air of being unmoved, not greatly interested. ('nɒnʃələnt). **'nondescript**, n., a. (Thing, person) without very strongly marked qualities. ('nɒndɪskript). **none**, 1. a., pron. Not any (person(s), thing(s), amount). 2. adv. By no amount, in no degree (only *n. the less*, *n. too good*, etc.). (nan). **'non-plus**, v.t. Put completely at a loss. ('nɒn'plʌs). **'nonsense**, n. Words without sense; foolish ideas or behaviour. ('nɒnsns). **'noodle**, n. Long band of MACARONI-like paste, gen. made with eggs. ('nu:dl). **'noodle**, n. Foolish, feeble-minded person. **nook**, n. Quiet, out-of-the-way, shut-in place. (nuk). **noon**, n. 12 in day. **'-day**, **'-tide**, nn. Time about noon. (nu:n). **noose**, v.t., n. (Get or keep as prisoner with) cord which has slipping knot at end becoming tight when pulled. (nu:s). **nor**, conj. And not, and equally not (freq. *neither ... nor ...*). (nɔ:). **norm**, n. Form, qualities, taken as NOOSE representative of group for purpose of judging other examples of it, most common form of a thing. **'-al**, a. In agreement with norm. *N. school*, training-school for teachers. (nɔ:m). **north**, 1. n., a. (Point, part) at left side of person who is facing E.; n. part of earth, country; (of wind) from n. (*To the n. of*, farther n than. 2. adv. In, to, the n. **'-erly** ('nɔ:ðəli), a., adv. To, (of wind) from, N. **'-ern**, a. In, of, N. **'-erner**, n. One living in N. (nɔ:θ). **nose**, 1. n. Part of face, having openings for breathing through, with which smelling is done; sense of smell; open end of pipe etc.; forward, n-like part. *Pay through the n.*, give a very high price; *put person's n. out of joint*, make him angry, unhappy, by getting more attention than he, etc. 2. v.t. & i. Get the smell of, make discovery of by smell; be smelling, looking (*about*, *for*); put n. into. *N. out*, make discovery of by nosing. **'n-dive**, n. Sudden drop of airplane with nose pointing



# NOTION

to earth. **'-gay**, n. Mass of cut flowers put together. **'nosy**, a. Over-interested in business of others. (nouz). **nos'talgia**, n. Feeling of being HOMESICK. (nos'taldʒə). **'nostril**, n. One or other of 2 openings in nose. ('nɒstrɪl). **'nostrum**, n. Substance etc. for overcoming disease, offered to public by person not medically trained, PANACEA. ('nɒstrəm). **not**, adv. Used as sign that something is the opposite of a fact (*this is n. a book*, *he did n. go*). *N. a little*, sp., much; *n. at all*, certainly n., in no way. (nɒt). **'notable**, a. Important, such as to be noted. **nota'bility**, n. Sp., important person. ('nɒutəbl). **'notary**, n. Person with authority to put statements, agreements etc. into form made necessary by law. ('nɒutəri). **no'tation**, n. (Use of) any system of signs representative of numbers, amounts etc. (nou'teɪʃn). **notch**, v.t., n. (Make) small, V-like cut (in). (nɒtʃ). **note**, 1. n. [Mus.] simple unit sound of fixed quality; [Mus.] sign representative of such sound and how long it is to be, used in writing music; any of parts of piano moved by fingers; [Mus.] any of group of nn. forming scale; quality of voice giving sign of some feeling; short record of facts, events, made as help to memory; short letter; letter from one government to another; short statement making clear some point in book, etc.; bit of paper money. *N. of hand*, undertaking in writing to make payment by certain time; *of n.*, important; *take n. of*, give attention to, take into account. 2. v.t. Take n. of; keep in mind, make a n. of. **'-d**, a. Important, with a great name. **'n-paper**, n. Paper for letters. **'-worthy**, a. Important, to be noted. (nɒut). **'nothing**. See NO. **'notice**, 1. n. News specially given to public or person of something about to take place; n. to or from worker, property owner etc. that position, house etc. is to be given up on certain day; a printed etc. statement of n., rules, directions, freq. put up in public place; short note, account, of event in newspaper; attention. *Take n. of*, give attention to. 2. v.t. See, take note of. ('nɒutɪs). **'notify**, v.t. Give NOTICE of or to. **'notifiable**, a. Which has to be notified to authorities. ('nɒutɪfaɪ). **'notion**, n. Idea; view, opinion, theory. *Nn.*, (in Am. stores) pins, needles etc. ('nɒʊfɪn).



# NOTORIOUS

**no'torious**, a. Noted, much talked about, sp., for bad qualities. **no'toriety** (nouta'raeti), n. (no'to:ri:es).  
**notwith'standing**, prep. Though (something) is so, not any less because of. (notwið'standin).  
**'nougat**, n. Sort of sweet. ('nu:ga:).  
**nought**, n. 0, no number. (no:t).  
**noun**, [Lang.] n. Word used as name of person or thing. (naun).  
**'nourish**, v.t. Keep or make strong with food; keep up (hope, hate etc.). **-ing**, a. Full of nourishment. **'-ment**, n. Sp., food, power of nourishing. ('narif).  
**nous**, n. [Com.] Common sense. (naus).  
**'nouveau riche**, [F.] One who has newly become well-off, sp. as having unpleasant ways. ('nu:vou'ri:f).  
**'novel**, i. a. Of a new sort, strange. 2. n. Story of fiction printed as complete book. **-ette**, n. Short novel. **'-ist**, n. Writer of novels. **-ty**, n. ('novl).  
**No'vember**, n. 11th month of year. (nou'vembə).  
**'novice**, n. Person new to some work, not an expert; one in first stage of joining order of religion. **no'vitate** (nou'vi:ti), n. Time, condition, of being a novice. ('novis).  
**now**, i. adv. At the present time, by this time; used without idea of time as way of starting statement to get attention, etc. (freq. *n. then*). *Just n.*, only a short time back; *n. and again (then)*, at times, not frequently. 2. conj. As an effect of the fact *that*. 3. n. The present time. **'-adays**, adv. In our time. (nau).  
**'nowhere**. See **no**.  
**'noxious**, a. Bad, unhealthy. ('nokʃəs).  
**'nozzle**, n. Pointed outlet of pipe or other apparatus. ('nozl).  
**nu'ance**, n. Very delicate shade, quality, making one colour, sense etc., different from another. (nju'əns).  
**'nucleus**, n. Middle part, that round which other things are grouped; thing, amount, to which additions are made; [Sc.] body in CELL necessary for its growth.  
**'nuclear**, a. ('nju:kliəs).  
**nude**, i. a. Unclothed. 2. n. N. form in painting etc. **'nudist**, n. One with belief that it is healthy to go about nude. (nju:d).  
**nudge**, i. n. Push given with ELBOW to get attention, etc. 2. v.t. Give n. to. (nadj).  
**'nugatory**, a. Without value, effect. ('nju:ɡə:tri).  
**'nugget**, n. Rough mass of gold in natural condition. ('nagit).  
**'nuisance**, n. Thing, act, person, causing trouble. ('nju:sns).  
**null**, a. Of no effect, without force in law. (nal).  
**'nullah**, n. (In India) river-bed, narrow opening between slopes. ('nalə).

# NUTMEG

**numb**, v.t., a. (Make) without feeling or power of motion. (nam).  
**'number**, i. n. Amount of units; group which may be measured by units; word or sign representative of some n.; the newspaper etc. for some day, week etc.; stage song, dance etc. *Nu.*, sp., a great n.; verses, units of verse rhythm; *a n. of*, some, a great n. of; *back n.*, thing or person not in harmony with the present time; *without n.*, numberless. 2. v.t. Get the n., make addition, of; put n(n). on; come to (certain n.), be in n. *N. among*, be looking on as one of. **'-less**, a. More than may be numbered. ('nambə).  
**'numerable**, a. Of which the number may be given. ('nju:mərəbl).  
**'numeral**, i. n. Word, sign for a number. 2. a. Representative of a number; of numbers. **nume'ration**, n. Numbering; [Math.] putting of numbers into words.  
**'numerator**, n. Number over the line in a FRACTION. **nu'merical**, a. Of, in, to do with, numbers. **'numerous**, a. Great in number, a great number of. ('nju:mərəl).  
**numis'matics**, n. The science of COINS. **nu'mismatist**, n. (nju:miz'matiks).  
**'numskull**, n. Feeble-minded, foolish, person or his head. ('namskal).  
**nun**, n. Woman living as one of order of religion away from other society. **'-nery**, n. House of nuns. (nan).  
**'nuncio**, n. Representative of Pope in any country. ('nanʃiu).  
**'nuptial**, a. To do with getting married or married condition. **-s**, n. pl. The forms, event, of getting married. ('napʃəl).  
**nurse**, i. n. Person (sp. trained for) looking after ill persons; woman looking after babies for a living. *Wet n.*, woman who gives her milk to another's baby. 2. v.t. & i. Be acting as n. to, be a n.; have (baby) in arms, on knees; give one's milk to (baby); give care making possible the development of (business etc.). **'-ling**, n. Baby, sp. in relation to its nurse. **'-ry** ('nə:ri), n. Room in house for use of young boys and girls; place for development of young plants. **'-ry-man**, n. Owner of plant nursery. (nə:s).  
**nurture**, i. n. Care, training, of young person. 2. v.t. Give n. to. ('nə:ʃə).  
**nut**, i. n. Fruit formed of hard outer cover round soft seed which is good for food; such seed; bit of metal for screwing on to end of screw, rod etc. to keep it fixed (see BOLT); [Hum.] head. 2. v.i. Be looking for, getting, nn. **'-crackers**, n. pl. Instrument for cracking nuts open. **'-hatch**, n. Small bird living on nuts. (nat).  
**'nutmeg**, n. Hard, small, round, sweet-smelling seed of E. Indian evergreen,

# NUTRIA

used to give taste in cooking. ('natmeg).  
**'nutria**, n. Hair and skin of small S. Am. animal. ('nju:triə).  
**'nutriment**, n. Nutritious food. **'nutrient**, a. Acting as food. **nu'trition**, n. (Building up with, giving) food.  
**nu'tritious**, a. With high food value.  
**'nutritive**, a. Nutritious; of nutrition. ('nju:trimənt).  
**'nuzzle**, v.i. & t. Be rubbing, pushing, into, against, with the nose. ('nazl).  
**nymph**, n. [Fict.] Beautiful female being living in seas, mountains, rivers, trees etc.; [Let.] beautiful young woman. (nimf).

# O

**o'**, Short form of "of" (*man o' war*, etc.).  
**O'clock**, (of time) by the clock. (ə).  
**o(h)**, int. Cry of surprise, sudden pleasure or pain, etc. (ou).  
**oaf**, n. Man, boy, who is foolish, rough and unpolished in behaviour. (ouf).  
**oak**, n., a. (Hard wood of) sorts of great tree common in England. **'o.-apple**, n. Round growth on oak-tree caused by insect. (ouk).  
**'oakum**, n. Threads got by pulling out old cord, used for stopping up cracks etc. ('oukəm).  
**oar**, n. Long bladed instrument pulled by hand against pin or support on side of boat and forcing it through water. **'-sman**, n. One using oars. (o:).  
**o'asis** (oases), n. Fertile place with water in waste of sand. (ou'eisiz (ou'eisi:z)).  
**oast**, n. Oven for drying HOPS. **'o.-house**, n. Building with oast. (oust).  
**oat**, n. (One grain of) sort of grass plant producing grain used for food sp. of horses. *Sow one's wild oo.*, do foolish things, be unwise in pleasures, when a young man. **'-meal**, n. Powdered oats. (out).  
**oath**, n. Undertaking given in God's name to do something or that statement is true; use of God's name etc. as bad language. *Make, take, swear, an o.*, give an o.; *on o.*, having taken an o. (ouð).  
**obbl'i'gato**, [Mus.] n., a. (Music) for playing on one instrument to go with song and/or other instrument. (obli'ga:tou).  
**'obdurate**, a. Not (readily) moved by argument. ('əbdjuri:t).  
**o'bedient**, a. (Readily) doing what one is ordered. (ou'bi:djənt).



OAR IN ROWLOCK

# OBLONG

**o'beisance**, n. Motion of respect, sp. with body bent low. (ou'beisəns).  
**'obelisk**, n. Tall, 4-sided, stone structure going up to point. ('əbilisk).  
**o'bes**, a. (Of person) fat. (ou'bi:s).  
**o'bey**, v.i. & t. Do as ordered (by). (ou'bei).  
**'obfuscate**, v.t. Make (mind etc.) unclear, clouded. ('əbfəskeit).  
**o'bituary**, n., a. Record of death(s), short account of dead person, in newspaper etc. (ou'bitjuəri).  
**'object**, n. Material thing; person, thing, to which act or feeling is pointed; thing desired or attempted, purpose; [Lang.] (in statement) name of person or thing to which act named by v.t. is done or coming after a prep. *Money etc. is no o.*, there is no need to take it into account.  
**ob'jective**, i. a. Having existence outside the mind; to do with, picturing, facts uncoloured by feeling or opinion; [Lang.] of the object. 2. n. [Mil.] Point to which forces are moving for purpose of attack; thing desired, being worked for; glass(es) of MICROSCOPE nearest thing looked at. **'o.-lesson**, n. The teaching, learning, of something from an example before one. ('əbdʒikt).  
**ob'ject**, v.i. Put forward or have objection (to). **'-ion**, n. Sp., statement, feeling, against something; cause of objecting.  
**'-ionable**, a. Open to objection; unpleasing, causing disgust. (əb'dʒekt).  
**'objurgate**, v.t. Say angry words to. ('əbdʒə:ɡeit).  
**o'blation**, n. Offering made to God etc. (ou'bleiʃn).  
**obli'gation**, n. That which one has to do by law etc.; power of law, one's sense of right etc., to make one do something; feeling of debt to person because of kind act etc. *Be under an o.*, have to do something as an o.; have sense of debt to person. **'obligate**, v.t. Put under obligation. **o'bligatory**, a. Which one is obligated to do. (əbli'geiʃn).  
**o'blige**, v.t. Make (person to do); do something for (person) as requested by him. *Be obliged to (person)*, be in his debt.  
**o'bliging**, a. Ready to do things for others. (ə'blaidʒ).  
**'oblique**, a. Sloping, at angle other than right angle to given line, direction. **o'blivity** (ə'blɪkwiti), n. Sp., unstraightforward behaviour. (ou'blɪk).  
**o'bliterate**, v.t. Take away all signs of, get rubbed out; make destruction of. (ə'blɪteɪt).  
**o'blivion**, n. Condition of letting go, being gone, from memory. **o'blivious**, a. Unconscious of, having no memory of, something. (ə'blɪvjən).  
**'oblong**, n., a. Form, sp. 4-sided, right-